

REMARKS

The Office Action dated November 28, 2003 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claim 20 has been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Claims 1-19 were canceled in a previous amendment. No new matter has been added, and no new issues are raised which require further consideration and/or search. Thus, claims 20-38 are pending in the present application, and are respectfully submitted for consideration.

Claims 20-38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,852,651 (*Fischer et al.*) To anticipate, the cited reference must disclose each and every element of the claimed invention. Applicant submits that *Fischer* does not anticipate claims 20-38.

Claim 20, and claims 21-36 which depend therefrom, recite a receiver for receiving a plurality of different signals at the same time. The receiver comprises means for identifying at least one strongest signal of the plurality of different signals. The receiver also includes a filter for attenuating only within a frequency band and adjustable to attenuate only within a frequency band of one of said at least one strongest signal with respect to the other of said plurality of signals, the filter having an input to receive the plurality of different signals and an output providing the plurality of different signals with signals within the frequency band of the one strongest signal being attenuated.

Claim 37 recites a base station incorporating a receiver for receiving a plurality of different signals at the same time. The receiver comprises means for identifying at least one strongest signal of the plurality of different signals. The receiver also includes a filter for attenuating the at least one strongest signal with respect to the other of the plurality of signals. The filter has an input to receive the plurality of different signals and an output providing the plurality of different signals with the at least one strongest signal being attenuated.

Claim 38 recites a method for receiving a plurality of different signals at the same time. The method comprises identifying at least one strongest signal of the plurality of different signals. The method also includes filtering the at least one strongest signal with respect to the other of the plurality of signals by a filter having an input to receive the plurality of different signals and an output providing the plurality of different signals with the at least one strongest signal being attenuated with respect to the other of the plurality of signals.

As discussed in the present specification, the present invention employs only one filter, such that the filter is located logically after and is responsive to the identification means. The identified at least one strongest signal is subjected to attenuation in order to reduce the dynamic range of a multi-carrier receiver. The present invention discloses a filter provided with an output providing a plurality of different signals with at least one strongest signal being attenuated. It is respectfully submitted that *Fischer* fails to

disclose the elements of any of the presently pending claims. Therefore, *Fischer* fails to provide the critical and unobvious advantages discussed above.

Fischer relates to a cellular communications system with sectorization. Referring to Figure 1b, *Fischer* describes that the filtering of signals occurs before any of the strongest signals are identified. *Fischer* describes the radio frequency (RF) signal from the main antenna being filtered through a first set of filters 1, one for each signal assigned to the microcell, and the combined filtered main signal is then applied to an analogue-to-digital converter (column 3, lines 62-67). A second set of filters receives a diversity signal from the diversity antenna. The diversity signal also is applied to an analogue-to-digital converter (column 4, lines 1-3). Thus, *Fischer* describes the strongest signal being selected for use in accordance with conventional diversity technology. Applicant submits that *Fischer* does not disclose a means for identifying at least one strongest signal of a plurality of different signals and a filter for attenuating. . . the at least one strongest signal with respect to the other of the plurality of signals.

In contrast, claims 20 and 37 recite “means for identifying at least one strongest signal of said plurality of different signals” and “a filter for attenuating. . . said at least one strongest signal with respect to the other of said plurality of signals.” Further, claim 38 recites “identifying at least one strongest signal of said plurality of different signals” and “filtering said at least one strongest signal with respect to the other of said plurality of signals by a filter having an input to receive said plurality of different signals.” According to the claimed invention, the identified strongest signal is attenuated in order

to reduce the dynamic range. Thus, the required dynamic range may be reduced in a multi-carrier receiver.

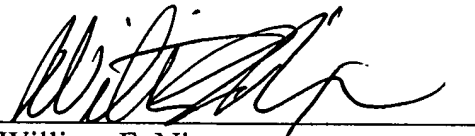
Fischer, however, describes selecting the strongest signal for further processing after filtering. This step of *Fischer* does not disclose the features of claims 20, 37 and 38 described above. In addition, *Fischer* describes having a plurality of filters located differently from that disclosed by the present invention. Therefore, applicant respectfully submits that *Fischer*, at the least, does not disclose a filter for attenuating an identified at least one strongest signal with respect to the other of a plurality of signals. Thus, *Fischer* does not anticipate claims 20-38.

It is further submitted that claims 21-36 recite subject matter not disclosed by *Fischer* in addition to the subject matter recited in claim 20. It is therefore respectfully requested that all of claims 20-38 be allowed, and this application passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William F. Nixon', written over a horizontal line.

William F. Nixon
Registration No. 44,262

Customer No. 32294
SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY LLP
14TH Floor
8000 Towers Crescent Drive
Tysons Corner, Virginia 22182-2700
Telephone: 703-720-7800
Fax: 703-720-7802

WFN:cct